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State, CSX consider four sites in Baltimore for new terminal CSX planning truck-to-rail center to transport double-stacked containers through Baltimore

By <u>Gus G. Sentementes</u>, The Baltimore Sun 7:08 PM EDT, August 31, 2012

The Maryland Department of Transportation is working with CSX Transportation to review four sites in Baltimore that the railroad company could use as a new multi-million-dollar cargo transfer facility needed to accommodate increased freight demands at the Port of Baltimore, a state official said Friday.

Leif A. Dormsjo, MDOT's acting deputy secretary, said his department and CSX officials are considering four parcels of land currently owned by CSX in South Baltimore. The possible sites are in the areas of Locust Point, Curtis Bay, Mount Clair and Mount Winans, he said.

CSX had considered four locations outside the city, in Central Maryland, but turned its attention to Baltimore after Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake asked the company in April to consider placing its intermodal facility in the city.

Dormsjo said the company is exploring building a smaller facility in Baltimore than what it had planned for locations outside the city, in Howard, Anne Arundel and Prince George's County.

If a Baltimore location isn't selected, the company and the state would return to evaluating options outside Baltimore, Dormsjo said.

The truck-to-rail center is needed to allow CSX to bypass the narrow, century-old Howard Street tunnel beneath Baltimore. The tunnel is too low for transport of shipping containers stacked two high.

A CSX spokesman said the company was continuing to "evaluate all options to develop an intermodal facility."

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